

## Nouns . . .

### Number of Nouns

The number of a noun is either singular or plural.

756.1

#### Singular Nouns

A singular noun names one person, place, thing, or idea.

**boy group audience stage concert hope**

756.2

#### Plural Nouns

A plural noun names more than one person, place, thing, or idea.

**boys groups audiences stages concerts hopes**

### Gender of Nouns

756.3

#### Noun Gender

Nouns are grouped according to gender: *feminine*, *masculine*, *neuter*, and *indefinite*.

**Feminine** (female): **mother, sister, women, cow, hen**

**Masculine** (male): **father, brother, men, bull, rooster**

**Neuter** (neither male nor female): **tree, cobweb, closet**

**Indefinite** (male or female): **president, duckling, doctor**

### Uses of Nouns

756.4

#### Subject Nouns

A noun that is the subject of a sentence does something or is talked about in the sentence.

**The roots of rap can be traced back to West Africa and Jamaica.**

756.5

#### Predicate Nouns

A predicate noun follows a form of the *be* verb (*am, is, are, was, were, being, been*) and renames the subject.

**In the 1970s, rap was a street art.**

756.6

#### Possessive Nouns

A possessive noun shows possession or ownership.

**Early rap had a drummer's beat but no music.**

**The rapper's words are set to music.**

756.7

#### Object Nouns

A noun is an object noun when it is used as the direct object, the indirect object, or the object of the preposition.

**Some rappers tell people their story about life in the city.**

(indirect object: *people*; direct object: *story*)

**Rap is now a common music choice in this country.** (object of the preposition: *country*)

# Grammar Practice

## Nouns 2

### ■ Number and Gender of Nouns



Draw a chart like the one below. Classify the underlined nouns in the following paragraph by writing them in the correct box.

Gender	Singular	Plural
feminine		
masculine		<i>men</i>
neuter		
indefinite		

Antarctica was a continent without men or women until explorers and researchers from other parts of the world arrived. Only penguins and seals lived on the

land. In December 1911, Roald Amundsen and four other men made their way across Antarctica using skis and dogsleds. They were the first people to reach the South Pole, which is the point in the earth's southern hemisphere where all the lines of longitude start. The group traveled quickly across snow and mountains. When they reached the pole, they set up the Norwegian flag. A month later, a team led by British explorer Robert Scott arrived at the South Pole. It wasn't until 1969, however, that the first woman reached the pole.

### ■ Uses of Nouns



Number your paper from 1 to 4. List each underlined noun from the following paragraph and identify it as a "subject noun," a "predicate noun," a "possessive noun," or an "object noun."

**Example:** Twelve nations signed the International Antarctic Treaty in 1961.

*nations, subject noun*

The treaty's rules say that people can use Antarctica only for peaceful purposes. The rules also promise freedom to do scientific study. Today, many countries have permanent research stations in Antarctica, and about 4,000 people are full-time residents during its summer months.